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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 5 Dec. 1951

SUBJECT Production of a Twin-jet Fighter Plane at the
 Rudolf Slansky Plant in Prague-Letnany

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS 1 (2 pages)
(LISTED BELOW)

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1. The Rudolf Slansky branch of the Czechoslovak Automobile and Aircraft Works National Corporation (formerly Tudy Letov) in Letnany near Prague employs a total of about 3,000 workers, about 20 percent of whom are office employees and about 25 percent of whom are women. This plant is being converted to the exclusive production of aircraft; the last series of Aero Minor automobiles is to be completed in July 1951. The production of these automobiles is to be transferred to the Walter plant in Jinonice (051/L78). The Rudolf Slansky plant also repaired aircraft at the rate of about one plane per week.
2. In June 1951 two test models of a new type of jet fighter went into production. If the test flights of these planes prove satisfactory, full scale production will get under way. The planes are being made according to Soviet plans and under Soviet supervision. Fuselage and wings are manufactured in this plant while various parts are delivered from the Walter plant.
3. The jet fighters, officially known as "Lavoc", are equipped with twin jet engines of unknown type. The length of the fuselage is estimated to be about 9 - 10 m; the wing span is about 13 m. The wings are swept back and are located about half-way back along the fuselage. The engines are located in the wings about 1.5 m from the fuselage. The plane is equipped with retractable tricycle landing gear. The crew numbers three; there is one fixed and one folding seat in the forward part and one fixed seat about the middle of the plane. Armament consists of two machine guns fixed in the wings and one revolving machine gun in the rear (sic). It is rumored that the plane has a maximum speed of 565 mph and requires 750 m to take off. The letters "L 107" appear under the port wing and the letters "HK 17" under the starboard wing.*
4. Leading personnel at the Rudolf Slansky plant include the following:

Plant manager	Mikula, age 46, an ardent Communist
Political secretary	Denk, age 40, an ardent Communist
Operations chief (sic)	Burgr, age 37, an ardent Communist

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Chief test pilot	Kovanda, age 36
Test pilot	Chladek, age 37
Chairman of the Workers' Council	Jiri Chmelicek, age 30

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* [REDACTED] Comment: It is believed possible that this is the Type 8 twin jet fighter, the designer of which has not been [REDACTED]. According to this [REDACTED], it seems possible that it is a Lavochkin type. The dimensions agree approximately with this type. However, the number of crew and the armament is in disagreement [REDACTED]

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Attachment: Situation plan and sketch of the Rudolf Slansky plant, with key.

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